PUYALLUP SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Agenda Item Details

Meeting	Mar 16, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting at Kessler Center and livestreamed via Zoom
Category	4. Consent Agenda
Subject	M. Student Support Department: Hope Sparks MOU
Type	Action (Consent)

Presented by:
Tonya Middling, Director of Student Support

Issue:
This is a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish a collaborative partnership between HopeSparks Family Services ("HopeSparks") and the Puyallup School District ("PSD" or "the District") There is no charge to the Puyallup School District.

Background:
Readiness to Learn services are designed to provide early intervention, case management, and resource navigation to students experiencing academic, social, emotional, or basic-needs challenges. Through this partnership, HopeSparks will deliver targeted supports in collaboration with school staff to ensure that students and families receive appropriate services.

Discussion:
The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to provide Readiness to Learn (RTL) services to students and their families. This partnership is intended to support academic success, improve student well-being, and strengthen family engagement by addressing barriers that interfere with learning.

Contact Information:
If you have questions or comments regarding this item, please contact Tonya Middling, Director of Student Support, at middltr@puyallupsd.org or 253-840-8907.

Puyallup School District RTL MOU 3.4.26 - signed.pdf (263 KB)

Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, Robert's Rules, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Board by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through Board subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Board members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any board member.

Motion & Voting

Approve the consent agenda, as presented.

Motion by Shannon C Burch, second by Melissa Bedford.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Gretchen S Miles, David B Berg, Shannon C Burch, Joseph Romero, Melissa Bedford

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between HopeSparks Family Services and Puyallup School District

For Readiness to Learn Services

Effective Dates: April 1, 2026 through August 31, 2028

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish a collaborative partnership between HopeSparks Family Services ("HopeSparks") and the Puyallup School District ("PSD" or "the District") to provide Readiness to Learn (RTL) services to students and their families. This partnership is intended to support academic success, improve student well-being, and strengthen family engagement by addressing barriers that interfere with learning.

II. Background

Readiness to Learn services are designed to provide early intervention, case management, and resource navigation to students experiencing academic, social, emotional, or basic-needs challenges. Through this partnership, HopeSparks will deliver targeted supports in collaboration with school staff to ensure that students and families receive appropriate services.

III. Roles and Responsibilities

A. HopeSparks Family Services Will:

1. Provide designated Readiness to Learn staff to support students and families referred by PSD.

2. Offer case management, resource coordination, and individualized student support.

3. Maintain communication with District staff while honoring all applicable confidentiality requirements, including FERPA and HIPAA, as appropriate.

4. Track service delivery, outcomes, and data as required for grant funding or reporting.

5. Participate in regular meetings with PSD to review program progress, needs, and adjustments.

6. Obtain and maintain necessary staff training, background checks, and clearances.

B. Puyallup School District Will:

1. Identify and refer students and families who may benefit from RTL services.

2. Provide access to appropriate school space for HopeSparks staff to meet with students and families, when available.

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3. Facilitate collaboration between HopeSparks staff and school personnel, including counselors, administrators, and teachers.

4. Support data sharing in alignment with FERPA guidelines and signed releases of information.

5. Communicate any relevant concerns or needs that may impact services.

6. Participate in regular program review meetings with HopeSparks.

IV. Data Sharing and Confidentiality

Both parties agree to comply with all federal and state laws related to confidentiality, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and applicable privacy regulations governing client information. Information will be shared only with appropriate consent and for the purpose of coordinating student support.

V. Financial Terms

This MOU does not obligate either party to a financial commitment unless otherwise specified in an attached budget or addendum. Any future funding agreements will be documented separately.

VI. Reporting and Evaluation

HopeSparks will provide required program data, narrative summaries, and metrics to PSD and/or relevant funders. Both parties will collaborate in evaluating program effectiveness and identifying areas for improvement.

Successful collaborations require professional communication between the Parties to support the stated goals and to achieve and track the measurable outcomes detailed in this MOU. The Parties agree to communicate as follows:

Hope Spark's Director will meet with the Director of Student Support at least twice per year to discuss partnership strengths, progress, and any challenges that need addressed.

Field RTL staff will confirm receipt of referrals within three school days and communicate when services have commenced with designated social workers and school counselors.

VII. Term and Termination

This MOU will remain in effect for the term indicated above unless amended by mutual written agreement. Either party may terminate this agreement with 30 days' written notice.

VIII. Non-Discrimination

Both parties agree to comply with all local, state, and federal non-discrimination laws and policies.

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IX. Liability

Each party is responsible for the actions of its own employees, contractors, and agents. Nothing in this MOU creates a legal partnership or joint venture.

X. Signatures

HopeSparks Family Services

Name: Tamie Nielson

Title: Director

Signature: Tamie Nielsen
Tamie Nielsen (Mar 5, 2026 14:53:11 PST)

Date: Mar 5, 2026

Puyallup School District

Name: Tonya Middling

Title: Director of Student Support

Signature: Tonya Middling

Date: 3/4/26 Mar 5, 2026

Puyallup School District RTL MOU 3.4.26

Final Audit Report 2026-03-05

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"Puyallup School District RTL MOU 3.4.26" History

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Signer tnielsen@hopesparks.org entered name at signing as Tamie Nielsen
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Document e-signed by Tamie Nielsen (tnielsen@hopesparks.org)
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